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## McLean County WIC Program Not Impacted by Lapse in Appropriations

Food funding already allocated to WIC State agencies for the second quarter

BLOOMINGTON – The McLean County Health Department wants County residents to know that the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) remains fully operational. Currently, the WIC program at the health department is not affected by a lapse in appropriations for the Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

"We want families to know that all of the services we have been providing will continue," says Tammy Brooks, WIC Supervisor. "It's business as usual and we invite those interested in WIC services to come see us and sign up."

McLean County WIC has served residents since 1978, providing nutrition education, access to a nutritionist, breastfeeding support, supplemental foods, and healthcare referrals. WIC participants have access to breastfeeding counseling and support, including Breastfeeding Peer Counselor, Certified Lactation Counselors, and an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant to support them on their breastfeeding journey. McLean County WIC participants may also be eligible to accept Farmer's Market checks to access fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables.

Saving lives and improving the health of nutritionally at-risk women, infants, and children every day, is the focus of McLean County WIC. For the past 40 years, WIC has resulted in fewer premature births, fewer infant deaths, increased prenatal care rates, and health care costs savings.

To learn more about McLean County WIC, visit: <a href="http://health.mcleancountyil.gov/109/WIC">http://health.mcleancountyil.gov/109/WIC</a>, or call 309-888-5457. WIC also maintains a Facebook page at: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/mcleanwic">www.facebook.com/mcleanwic</a>, which provides tips and information about breastfeeding, nutrition, and other issues of importance to pregnant women and young families.

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